1992, published by ILO, India has probably the largest number of working children. However, authentic data on Child Labour are generated from the decennial census. As per 1991 census the number of working children in India is 11.28 million as against 13.6 million according to 1981 census.

(b) to (d) According to the news paper report a workshop on "Primary Education and Child Labour was organised by SACCS (South-Asian Coalition of Child Servitude) in New Delhi on 1st Nov., 97, wherein emphasis was laid on the need for achieving universal primary education. Government have taken a series of steps for the elimination of Child Labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children is prohibited in 7 occupations and 18 processes contained in parts A and B of the scheduled to the Act. There are also legal provisions in various other labour laws safeguarding the interests of working children. Apart from legal measures, Government have taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations. 76 child labour projects have been set up for the rehabilitation of around 1.5 lakh children working in hazardous occupations. A major activity undertaken under the child labour projects is the establishment of special schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc. to children withdrawn from employment. As the available information, around 1.05 lakh children are already enrolled in the special schools. Besides opening of child labour projects, funds have been sanctioned for carrying out survey on child labour in 516 distrsicts and for awareness generation against the evil of child labour in 133 districts. Various initiatives have been taken by the Government for universalisation of elementary eduction and for providing free and compulsory education to all children upto the age of 14 years.

News Norms for Selection to top Administrative Posts

1027. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have proposed new norms for selection to the top administrative posts such as the Chief Secretary and the Director-General of Police; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND THE PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLAIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALA- SUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

Ceiling of GPF Contributions

1028. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for ceiling on GPF contributions for Central Government employees; and

(b) whether Government propose to relax the ceiling to enable Government employees to deposit the arrears due to them on account of 5th Pay Commission Report enblock to GPF account in the interest of economic stability of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND THE PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) The ceiling in GPF contributions for Central Govt. servants has been prescribed in GPF (CS) Rules, 1960 which provides that the amount of subscription may be any sum not less than 6% of the emoluments and not more than the total emoluments of an employee.